

HOW TO START A COMPOSTING PROGRAM AT YOUR SCHOOL

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

- Get support from the top
- Rally support from all groups that will be involved
- Seek input from all groups
- Work with teachers to incorporate instruction from Action for A Cleaner Tomorrow curriculum
 - CAN YOU DIG IT? – page 39
 - LOOK IN YOUR GARBAGE CAN – page 67
 - MY BAG – page 79
 - RECYCLE IT – page 93
 - A ROTTEN IDEA – page 107

GET TEACHERS ON BOARD

- Work with teachers to incorporate instruction from Action for A Cleaner Tomorrow curriculum
 - CAN YOU DIG IT? – page 39
 - 6-3.1 Compare the characteristic structures of invertebrate animals (including sponges, segmented worms, echinoderms, mollusks and arthropods) and vertebrate animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.)
 - 6-4.7 Explain how solar energy affects Earth's atmosphere and surface (land and water)
 - LOOK IN YOUR GARBAGE CAN – page 67
 - 5-3.6 Explain how human activity (including conservation efforts and pollution) has affected the land and the oceans of Earth.
 - 7-4.6 Classify resources as renewable or nonrenewable and explain the implications of their depletion and the importance of conservation.
 - A ROTTEN IDEA – page 107
 - 1-2.5 Explain how distinct environments throughout the world support the life of different types of plants.
 - 1-4.1 Recognize the composition of Earth (including rocks, sand, soil and water).

SET UP YOUR INFRASTRUCTURE

- Do you want to do vermicomposting in addition to having an outdoor compost bin?
- Determine where to place containers for food scraps
- Clearly label bins
- Identify what can be composted
 - CAN YOU DIG IT? – page 39



PLAN COLLECTION

- Determine location of containers
- Determine who will empty containers
- Work out details to make sure containers are emptied each day



DETERMINE THE DESTINATION

- What kind of compost bin will you use?
- Where will your bin be located on the school grounds?
- Who will have the task of turning, watering and tending the compost pile.



USE OF COMPOSTED MATERIALS

- Flower gardens
- Organic vegetable garden



SHARING

- Questions
- Suggestions
- Ideas



Taylor's Elementary Green Step Web Site:

<http://teachers.greenville.k12.sc.us/sites/nkay/Pages/Green%20Steps%20Environmental%20Program.aspx>